

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 06778

NESCO

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: AORG, UNESCO
SUBJECT: UNESCO: HIGH LEVEL AMERICAN APPOINTMENT

REFS: (A) STATE 008181, (B) STATE 035295,
(C) PARIS 23514, (D) PARIS 31627, (E) PARIS 00089

1. WE ASSUME THAT THE U.S. WILL GET ONE AND ONE ONLY
ADG/DDG POSITION. WE FURTHER ASSUME THAT THE
EFFECTIVENESS ANY HIGH-LEVEL AMERICAN WILL HAVE WILL
DEPEND TO A LARGE DEGREE ON THE PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP
THAT EVOLVES WITH THE DIRECTOR GENERAL, AND THERE IS NO
WAY OF PREDICTING HOW THIS WILL DEVELOP. THERE IS A
RISK THAT THE AMERICAN WE NOMINATE WILL FALL SHORT OF
ESTABLISHING THE IDEAL PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH THE
DIRECTOR GENERAL.

2. PROCEEDING ON THE BASIS OF THESE ASSUMPTIONS, WE
AGREE WITH PARA 2 STATE 008181 THAT MOST USEFUL ADG
POSITION WE COULD GET WOULD BE IN A SEPARATE COMMUNI-
CATIONS SECTOR, IF ONE WERE TO BE CREATED. HOWEVER,
THIS APPEARS LESS LIKELY WITH THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A
NEW DADG POSITION IN COMMUNICATIONS AND CULTURE THAT
WILL FOCUS ON BRINGING ABOUT BETTER COORDINATION
BETWEEN THESE TWO DIVISIONS WITHIN THE EXISTING SECTOR.
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PAGE 02 PARIS 06778 250506Z

NEVERTHELESS, GIVEN THE DG'S INTENSELY PERSONAL AND
SECRETIVE MANNER OF OPERATING, WE HAVE NO WAY OF
KNOWING WHAT HIS ULTIMATE INTENTIONS FOR THE CULTURE
AND COMMUNICATION SECTOR ARE. SHOULD HE SPLIT OFF
COMMUNICATION BEFORE WE HAVE ACCEPTED ANOTHER HIGH-LEVEL
POST, WE WOULD WANT TO CONSIDER THE COMMUNICATION
SECTOR SERIOUSLY.

3. PERMDEL RECOMMENDS WE NOT RPT NOT SEEK ADG FOR SOCIAL SCIENCE. ALTHOUGH THIS SECTOR DOES HAVE SUBJECT AREAS OF CONCERN TO THE U.S. (HUMAN RIGHTS, RACE, APPLICATION OF SOCIAL SCIENCE TO DEVELOPMENT, BASIC HUMAN NEEDS) THESE AREAS ARE UNDER THE DIRECTION OF D-LEVEL PERSONNEL (E.G., VASAK, BODART) WHOSE ORIENTATION IS COMPATIBLE WITH U.S. OBJECTIVES. OUR INTERESTS IN SOCIAL SCIENCE SECTOR, BY AND LARGE ARE BEING WELL MET WITHOUT AN AMERICAN ADG. IN TERMS OF PERSONNEL, MONEY AND PROGRAM ACTIVITY SOCIAL SCIENCE SECTOR IS SMALLEST AND LEAST PRESTIGIOUS IN UNESCO, AND, CONSEQUENTLY, OFFERS LESS SCOPE FOR POLICY FORMULATION AND IMPLEMENTATION THAN DO OTHER SECTORS.

4. RE DEPARTMENT'S QUESTIONS IN STATE 008181.

A) NO REASON TO BELIEVE DG WAS SPECIFICALLY USING FOBES TO MAKE THIS POSITION KNOWN TO US. ALTHOUGH DG HAS INVITED US TO SUBMIT A CANDIDATE, HE IS NOT PRESSING, IN CONTRAST TO PROPOSED NEW ADMIN POSITION ON WHICH HE IS PRESSING US. OUR CHANCES OF GETTING SOCIAL SCIENCE SLOT PROBABLY WOULD BE GOOD. IT WOULD PROVIDE THE DG WITH HIS HIGH-LEVEL AMERICAN AND GET THAT QUESTION SETTLED.

B) WE STILL DO NOT KNOW WHEN OR HOW M'BOW WILL
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 PARIS 06778 250506Z

MAKE KNOWN HIS DECISION NOT TO REAPPOINT MME.
HILDEBRANDT.

C) AS INDICATED ABOVE, IT APPEARS LESS LIKELY NOW THAN IT DID SOME WEEKS AGO THAT CULTURE AND COMMUNICATIONS WILL BE SPLIT, BUT THE DG HAS NOT MADE ANY STATEMENT OF THE KIND INTENDED TO LAY THE RUMORS TO REST.

D) ALTHOUGH THE RISKS OF PUTTING AN AMERICAN IN CHARGE OF A NEW COMMUNICATIONS SECTOR WOULD BE HIGH IN TERMS OF THE DG'S RELATIONS WITH THE USSR AND THE EES, THE REWARDS IN TERMS OF HIS RELATIONS WITH THE US WOULD ALSO BE HIGH. THE DG HAS NOT MADE ANY STATEMENT OR SENT ANY SIGNALS THAT WOULD ENABLE US TO ASSESS HOW HE WOULD WEIGH THE RELATIVE RISKS. TORRES

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